

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A comminuting apparatus, especially a document shredder, comprising an approximately funnel-shaped feeding area for the material that is to be comminuted, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a flap or the like located in the feeding area constricts the feeding area to a narrow feeding path and extends across the width thereof is pivotally and/or movably mounted in the feeding area.
2. (Currently Amended) The comminuting device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the flap is movably or pivotally mounted in a position which unblocks the feeding area.
3. (Currently Amended) The comminuting device according to ~~one or both of the preceding claims 1 and 2, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the flap surface located opposite a support surface for the material to be comminuted extends parallel or in a sharp angle thereto in the direction toward the feed.
4. (Currently Amended) The comminuting apparatus according to ~~one or several of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the rotational axis of the flap is located in the upper part of the feeding area or above the feeding area.
5. (Currently Amended) The comminuting device according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the rotational axis of the flap is arranged behind and above a surface opposite the support surface of the feeding area.

6. (Currently Amended) The comminuting apparatus according to ~~one or several of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the rotational axis of the flap is pivotally mounted in an elongated hole which extends approximately perpendicularly to the support surface of the material to be comminuted and is movable against the spring force in opposite direction to the support surface.
7. (Currently Amended) The comminuting device according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the rotational axis of the flap actuates a switchgear which turns off the drive when a certain force or a certain displacement path is exceeded.
8. (Currently Amended) The comminuting apparatus according to ~~one or several of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the flap is connected with a switch which turns off the forward drive when the flap is lifted.
9. (Currently Amended) The comminuting apparatus according to ~~one or several of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ an electric switchgear, especially a contactless operating electronic and hysteresis-free working device which turns off the drive when the flap is pivoted upwards or, especially shifted in the arrow direction.
10. (Currently Amended) The comminuting apparatus according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the switchgear is bridgeable by means of a touch contact.

11. (Currently Amended) The comminuting apparatus according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the switchgear can be switched particularly by means of a contact switch which produces a temporary switch pulse both in a forward and reverse direction.